

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): An optical apparatus to be used for digital still cameras for setting any one of a plurality of lenses in a picture taking (image capturing) position, comprising:

5 (a) a lens turret rotatable around an axis and having plurality of lenses mounted theron;

(b) a driving mechanism to rotate the lens turret so that one of the lenses can be set at the picture taking position; and

10 (c) an element ~~a means~~ to adjust and extend the back focal length of ~~a~~ the lens with shorter focal length that is ~~so shaped like a column or square column or the like and as to be~~ suitable for being inserted between the rearmost lens element and the image sensor, and is made of ~~a material~~ glass, plastic or the like that has higher refraction index than that of air.

2. (Currently amended): An optical apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the driving mechanism ~~means of driving~~ to rotate the lens turret can be operated manually using gear teeth provided on the rim of lens turret disk, a rack, or a rack and pinion, and the rack can be moved by sliding from side to side manually.

3. (Currently amended): An optical apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the driving mechanism ~~means of driving~~ to rotate the lens turret can be operated by a motor using a worm and gear teeth provided on the rim of lens turret disk ~~and fixed on the axle of the motor~~.

4. (New): An optical apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the element is shaped like a column.

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1-4 to note that the Figures are representations of prior art structure. These sheets, which include Figs. 1-6, replace the original sheets 1-2 including Figs. 1-6.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

Annotated Sheets Showing Changes